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			2194	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/506,782	Applicant(s) TAMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner Powen Ru	Art Unit 2194	

– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9/7/2004.
 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 September 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>0409, 0412, 0511</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

This is the initial office action based on the application filed on 9/7/2004. Claims 1-16 are currently pending and have been considered below.

Drawings

1. Figures 1-4 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. The following title is suggested: IMAGE DISPLAY DEVICE WITH BUILT-IN LOUDSPEAKERS.

3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to, as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.72(a), because it exceeds 150 words in length (194 words). The abstract should be in

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narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. The Applicant may remove the reference numbers and other detailed information. Correction is required.

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- The acronym "CRT" (page 1 paragraph 2) should be clearly defined in its first appearance. The Examiner will assume it should be "Cathode-ray tube"
- The reference number "R2" (page 24 paragraph 3 line 2) should be "R1" as it refers to through holes only area.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

5. Claims 4, 6, 10, and 11 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claims 4, 11: The claims are falsely comparing a ratio (line 1) with the first area (line 2). The Examiner assumes that they should be modified to "... a ratio ... larger than that of the first area ..." (see Claim 9 for example).

Claims 6: There is possibly a redundant word, i.e., "... arranged one on left and right sides ..." (line 2). The Examiner assumes that "one" should be removed.

Claims 10: The claim is comparing an aperture size (line 1) with possibly two aperture sizes (line 2). The Examiner assumes they it should be modified to "... an

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aperture size ... larger than that of each of the second loudspeakers” (see Claim 8 for example).

Appropriate correction is required.

6. Claims 6 and 7 are objected to because of reciting duplicate limitations:

Claims 6: The limitation “wherein the first and second loudspeakers are provided in the main body” (lines 1-2) has been claimed in the base claim (Claim 5) as “a main display body provided with ... a first loudspeaker ... and a second pair of loudspeaker” (lines 1-3).

Claims 7: The limitation “wherein the image display device has a stand supporting the main body” (lines 1-2) has been claimed in the base claim (Claim 5) as “a stand for supporting the main body” (lines 4-5).

The Examiner does not consider the redundant clauses in the prosecution.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

8. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant

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regards as the invention. Claim 11 recites the limitation "the first area" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. This limitation can only be found in Claims 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10. Claim 11 cannot depend upon Claims 2, 5, 6, 7, or 8, as it would be a duplicate of Claims 4, 9, 14, 15, or 16. It cannot depend upon Claims 4 or 9, as it would simply add a duplicate limitation. Therefore the Examiner assumes this claim depends upon Claim 10.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama et al. (JP 11-259011) in view of Tanaka et al. (JP03-147498).

Claims 1: Maruyama et al. disclose an image display device comprising a main display body (100 [0016], see Fig. 1) provided with a display portion (LCD unit 101, [0016]), a pair of loudspeakers (151 [0037]), and a stand (200 [0016]); but do not disclose a duct, another loudspeaker, and the arrangement of the outlet of the duct. However, Tanaka et al. disclose a speaker system (for a display device, Fig. 3) with more than two speakers; especially, two (low frequency speaker unit 3 and 3' in Fig. 3)

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of them with a duct inside (sound duct 21, 22, and 23 in Fig 2) are for reproducing low frequency sound. In one particular embodiment (see Fig. 1), the outlets (port 4 in Fig. 1) of the ducts are arranged facing down. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the loudspeaker with a duct inside can enhance the quality of low frequency sounds. One would have been motivated to add at least one more loudspeakers (e.g., between two existing loudspeakers of Maruyama's display device) suggested by Tanaka et al. to improve the low frequency sound reproducing quality for Maruyama's display device and the duct outlet can be arranged facing down so that it is opposite to a portion of the stand. The Examiner does notices that the Applicant uses only one loudspeaker instead of two disclosed by Tanaka et al. However, the Examiner considers this is an obvious alternative.

Claims 3: Maruyama et al. and Tanaka et al. disclose an image display device as in Claim 1; but Maruyama et al. do not specifically disclose the aperture size information. However, Tanaka et al. further disclose that the high frequency loudspeaker does not require large capacity (see the partial translation) which implies that low frequency loudspeaker require larger aperture. The disclosed drawings also show that the aperture of the low frequency loudspeaker (3, e.g., in Fig. 1) is larger than that of the meddle/high frequency loudspeaker (6 or 7, e.g., in Fig. 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to choose a low frequency loudspeaker with larger aperture size. One would

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have been motivated to add a low frequency loudspeaker with larger aperture size suggested by Tanaka et al. to improve the low frequency sound reproducing quality for Maruyama's display device.

11. Claims 2, 5, 6, 8, 10, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama et al. (JP11-259011) in view of Tanaka et al. (JP03-147498) and further in view of Shiota et al. (5825903).

Claims 2: Maruyama et al. and Tanaka et al. disclose an image display device as in Claim 1; Maruyama et al. further disclose a housing (front/back cover 100/121 of resin, e.g., Fig. 2) and through holes (sound output holes 152 [0075], see Fig. 9) corresponding to each loudspeaker; but do not specifically disclose blind holes and the shape and/or size of corresponding area. However, Shiota et al. disclose a speaker grille for a television receiver (2 in Fig. 1) with both through holes (11, e.g., col 2 lines 40-52) corresponding to the aperture of each speaker (see Fig. 1 and 2) and blind holes (dummy bores 21, e.g., col 2 lines 40-52) surrounding the through hole area (see Fig. 1 and 2). Shiota et al. further suggest that the shape and size can be freely designed (e.g., col 2 lines 10-20) to match the whole system visually. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the blind holes in some particular area to have a better integral design. One would have been motivated to utilize blind holes suggested by Shiota et al. to increase the freedom of design on Maruyama's display device.

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Claims 5: Maruyama et al. disclose an image display device comprising a main display body (100 [0016], see Fig. 1) provided with a display portion (LCD unit 101, [0016]), a pair of loudspeakers (151 [0037]), a stand (200 [0016]), and a housing (front/back cover 100/121 of resin, e.g., Fig. 2) and through holes (sound output holes 152 [0075], see Fig. 9) corresponding to each loudspeaker; but do not disclose a duct, another loudspeaker, blind holes and the shape and/or size of corresponding area. However, Tanaka et al. disclose a speaker system (for a display device, Fig. 3) with more than two speakers; especially, two (low frequency speaker unit 3 and 3' in Fig. 3) of them with a duct inside (sound duct 21, 22, and 23 in Fig 2) are for reproducing of low frequency sound. On the other hand, Shiota et al. disclose a speaker grille for a television receiver (2 in Fig. 1) with both through holes (11, e.g., col 2 lines 40-52) corresponding to the aperture of each speaker (see Fig. 1 and 2) and blind holes (dummy bores 21, e.g., col 2 lines 40-52) surrounding the through-hole area (see Fig. 1 and 2). Shiota et al. further suggest that the shape and size can be freely designed (e.g., col 2 lines 10-20) to match the whole system visually. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the loudspeaker with a duct inside for better low frequency reproducing and to apply the blind holes in some particular area to have a better integral design. One would have been motivated to utilize blind holes suggested by Shiota et al. to increase the freedom of design on Maruyama's display device.

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Claims 6: Maruyama et al., Tanaka et al., and Shiota et al. disclose an image display device as in Claim 5; Maruyama et al. further disclose that the pair of loudspeakers are arranged on each sides of the main display body (see loudspeakers 151 in Fig 2); but do not disclose the “first loudspeaker” and where it is mounted. However, Tanaka et al. disclose that, in one embodiment (see Fig. 3), the loudspeakers for reproducing low frequency sound (3 and 3') are arranged in a lower portion of the main display body with the second pair of loudspeakers (high frequency speaker units 7 and 7') on the sides. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to place the loudspeaker for reproducing low frequency sound in the middle between the second pair of loudspeakers for reproducing middle/high frequency sound. As Tanaka et al. also show other arrangements, one would have been motivated to choose one of the arrangements suggested by Tanaka et al. to arrange the loudspeakers on Maruyama's display device.

Claims 8: Maruyama et al., Tanaka et al., and Shiota et al. disclose an image display device as in Claim 5; but Maruyama et al. do not specifically disclose the aperture size information. However, Tanaka et al. further disclose that the high frequency loudspeaker does not require large capacity (see the partial translation) which implies that low frequency loudspeaker require larger aperture. The disclosed drawings also show that the aperture of the low frequency loudspeaker (3, e.g., in Fig. 1) is larger than that of the meddle/high frequency loudspeaker (6 or 7, e.g., in Fig. 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time

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the invention was made to choose a low frequency loudspeaker with larger aperture size. One would have been motivated to add a low frequency loudspeaker with larger aperture size suggested by Tanaka et al. to improve the low frequency sound reproducing quality for Maruyama's display device.

Claims 10: Maruyama et al., Tanaka et al., and Shiota et al. disclose an image display device as in Claim 2; but Maruyama et al. do not specifically disclose the aperture size information. However, Tanaka et al. further disclose that the high frequency loudspeaker does not require large capacity (see the partial translation) which implies that low frequency loudspeaker require larger aperture. The disclosed drawings also show that the aperture of the low frequency loudspeaker (3, e.g., in Fig. 1) is larger than that of the meddle/high frequency loudspeaker (6 or 7, e.g., in Fig. 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to choose a low frequency loudspeaker with larger aperture size. One would have been motivated to add a low frequency loudspeaker with larger aperture size suggested by Tanaka et al. to improve the low frequency sound reproducing quality for Maruyama's display device.

Claims 12: Maruyama et al., Tanaka et al. and Shiota et al. disclose an image display device as in Claim 6; but Maruyama et al. do not specifically disclose the aperture size information. However, Tanaka et al. further disclose that the loudspeaker for high frequency does not require large capacity (see the partial translation) which implies that low frequency loudspeaker require larger aperture. The disclosed drawings

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also show that the aperture of the low frequency loudspeaker (3, e.g., in Fig. 1) is larger than that of the middle/high frequency loudspeaker (6 or 7, e.g., in Fig. 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to choose a low frequency loudspeaker with larger aperture size. One would have been motivated to add a low frequency loudspeaker with larger aperture size suggested by Tanaka et al. to improve the low frequency sound reproducing quality for Maruyama's display device.

12. Claims 4, 9, 11, 14, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama et al. (JP11-259011) in view of Tanaka et al. (JP03-147498) and further in view of Shiota et al. (5825903) and Hayashi (JP 4-4493).

Claims 4: Maruyama et al., Tanaka et al., and Shiota et al. disclose an image display device as in Claim 2; but neither reference specifically discloses the ratio of the through holes to the corresponding area. However, Hayashi discloses a ratio (see the translation of "Embodiment", pages 3-4) for a loudspeaker to improve the quality of sound reproducing. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the idea of differentiating the area ratio as suggested by Hayashi. One would have been motivated to choose a larger ratio of a low frequency loudspeaker than that of a middle/high frequency loudspeaker, in consideration of the balance between low frequency sound and middle/high frequency sound to increase the overall sound reproducing quality of Maruyama's display device.

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Claims 9: Maruyama et al., Tanaka et al., and Shiota et al. disclose an image display device as in Claim 5; but neither reference specifically discloses the ratio of the through holes to the corresponding area. However, Hayashi discloses a minimum ratio (see the translation of “Embodiment”, pages 3-4) for a particular loudspeaker. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the idea of differentiating the area ratio as suggested by Hayashi. One would have been motivated to choose a larger ratio of a low frequency loudspeaker than that of a middle/high frequency loudspeaker, in consideration of the balance between low frequency sound and middle/high frequency sound to increase the overall sound reproducing quality of Maruyama’s display device.

Claims 11: Maruyama et al., Tanaka et al., and Shiota et al. disclose an image display device as in Claim 10 (not Claim 3, see ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***); but neither reference specifically discloses the ratio of the through holes to the corresponding area. However, Hayashi discloses a ratio (see the translation of “Embodiment”, pages 3-4) for a loudspeaker to improve the quality of sound reproducing. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the idea of differentiating the area ratio as suggested by Hayashi. One would have been motivated to choose a larger ratio of a low frequency loudspeaker than that of a middle/high frequency loudspeaker, in consideration of the balance between low frequency sound and middle/high frequency sound to increase the overall sound reproducing quality of Maruyama’s display device.

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Claims 14: Maruyama et al., Tanaka et al. and Shiota et al. disclose an image display device as in Claim 6; but neither reference specifically discloses the ratio of the through holes to the corresponding area. However, Hayashi discloses a ratio (see the translation of "Embodiment", pages 3-4) for a loudspeaker to improve the quality of sound reproducing. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the idea of differentiating the area ratio as suggested by Hayashi. One would have been motivated to choose a larger ratio of a low frequency loudspeaker than that of a middle/high frequency loudspeaker, in consideration of the balance between low frequency sound and middle/high frequency sound to increase the overall sound reproducing quality of Maruyama's display device.

Claims 16: Maruyama et al., Tanaka et al. and Shiota et al. disclose an image display device as in Claim 8; but neither reference specifically discloses the ratio of the through holes to the corresponding area. However, Hayashi discloses a minimum ratio (see the translation of "Embodiment", pages 3-4) for a particular loudspeaker. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the idea of differentiating the area ratio as suggested by Hayashi. One would have been motivated to choose a larger ratio of a low frequency loudspeaker than that of a middle/high frequency loudspeaker, in consideration of the balance between low frequency sound and middle/high frequency sound to increase the overall sound reproducing quality of Maruyama's display device.

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13. Claims 7 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama et al. (JP11-259011) in view of Tanaka et al. (JP03-147498) and further in view of Shiota et al. (5825903) and Mizoguchi et al. (6381125).

Claims 7: Maruyama et al., Tanaka et al., and Shiota et al. disclose an image display device as in Claim 5; but do not disclose that the loudspeakers are mounted on the stand. However, Mizoguchi et al. disclose a personal computer with a display unit and two speakers (13, col 5 lines 30-35) on the stand (main unit 1, see Fig. 3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention that arranging speakers on the stand is a known design to save space in the display unit of a compact display device. One would have been motivated to place the loudspeakers on the stand as suggested by Mizoguchi et al. to save space or, inherently, to allow larger aperture size for Maruyama's display device.

Claims 13: Maruyama et al., Tanaka et al., Shiota et al., and Mizoguchi et al. disclose an image display device as in Claim 7; but Maruyama et al. do not specifically disclose the aperture size information. However, Tanaka et al. further disclose that the high frequency loudspeaker does not require large capacity (see the partial translation) which implies that low frequency loudspeaker require larger aperture. The disclosed drawings also show that the aperture of the low frequency loudspeaker (3, e.g., in Fig. 1) is larger than that of the meddle/high frequency loudspeaker (6 or 7, e.g., in Fig. 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to choose a low frequency loudspeaker with larger aperture

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size. One would have been motivated to add a low frequency loudspeaker with larger aperture size suggested by Tanaka et al. to improve the low frequency sound reproducing quality for Maruyama's display device.

14. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama et al. (JP11-259011) in view of Tanaka et al. (JP03-147498) and further in view of Shiota et al. (5825903), Mizoguchi et al. (6381125), and Hayashi (JP 4-4493).

Claims 15: Maruyama et al., Tanaka et al., Shiota et al., and Mizoguchi et al. disclose an image display device as in Claim 7; but neither reference specifically discloses the ratio of the through holes to the corresponding area. However, Hayashi discloses a ratio (see the translation of "Embodiment", pages 3-4) for a loudspeaker to improve the quality of sound reproducing. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the idea of differentiating the area ratio as suggested by Hayashi. One would have been motivated to choose a larger ratio of a low frequency loudspeaker than that of a middle/high frequency loudspeaker, in consideration of the balance between low frequency sound and middle/high frequency sound to increase the overall sound reproducing quality of Maruyama's display device.

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Conclusion


15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Thorsell et al. (6,912,290) disclose a speaker unit for low frequency reproduction; Takahashi (6,807,051) discloses a display apparatus with a speaker unit; Thiele (5,400,414) discloses a loudspeakers of a television apparatus; McCarty et al. (2004/0234088) disclose audio entertainment systems.

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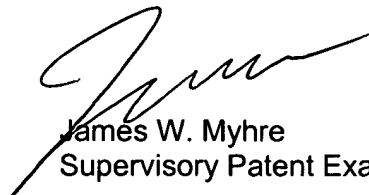
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Powen Ru whose telephone number is 571-270-1050. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm EDT.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Myhre can be reached on 571-270-1065. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



PR
6/5/2006



James W. Myhre
Supervisory Patent Examiner